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AFRL awards SBIR contract to Dolphin Technology

by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y.— The Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate has awarded a \$99,994 contract to Dolphin Technology, located at the Griffiss Business and Technology Park.

The contract, "Microsoft Office File Inspection Application," was awarded under the federal government's Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program.

"Dolphin engineers will develop a software tool that allows for advanced inspection of Microsoft Office files to discover information hidden in those files," said Matthew J. Kochan, program manager in the directorate's Information and Intelligence Exploitation Division. "The tool will scan computer files and alert the user that parts of the files have information that might not be readily apparent."

"The Microsoft Office suite has a quite complex file structure that it is easy for information to go unreviewed," Kochan said. "This is important for the intelligence community, where a spe-

cific file may be downgraded in classification and it is vital to know that nothing from the higher classification level remains obscured."

"Technology that will mitigate the unauthorized or unintended disclosure of information has wide potential application for both the military and the commercial sector," he said.

The federal SBIR program funds early-stage research and development at small, high-technology companies. It is designed to stimulate technological innovation; increase private sector commercialization of federal research and development; increase small business participation in federally funded research and development; and to foster participation by minority and disadvantaged firms in technological innovation.

To participate in the program, a firm must be a U.S. for-profit small business of 500 or fewer employees and the work must be performed in this country. @